[9th August 1954

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" I have not been asking that every question should be postponed. This being an important question and this having come to-day at the fag-end, I request it may be taken up tomorrow."

MR. SPEAKER :—" All right, I have no objection. This question will be taken up tomorrow."

Number of tuberculosis associations in the State.

* 1216 *Q.*—SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state how many tuberculosis associations are functioning in the Madras State under State auspices or as State aided?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" None, Sir."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Lease of lands in Koothali Estate, North Malabar.

164 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government lease out lands in panchayat and reserve forests free from forest growth for growing vegetables and food crops;

(*b*) how many acres of such lands were leased out in faslis 1361 and 1362;

(*c*) whether any applications were received by the Government for the lease of lands included in Koothali Estate, North Malabar, in faslis 1361 and 1362; and

(*d*) if so, the extent of land leased out to such applicants?

A.—(*a*) No land in the panchayat or reserved forest areas under the control of the Forest department is ordinarily leased merely for the cultivation of vegetables or food crops. But cultivation by kumri method (involving the planting up of the area with a tree crop at the same time) is permitted. It cannot, however, be said that the cultivators have always been faithful to their undertaking to raise tree crops also on the site. Sometimes, lands in forests are also leased out in order to attract labour to settle in such areas and be a source of assistance in departmental operations.

(*b*) In fasli 1361, an area of 8,043 acres and in fasli 1362, an area of 7,967 acres were leased for cultivation by kumri method.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) Nine hundred and eighty-seven acres were leased in fasli 1361 and 884 acres were leased in fasli 1362.